

Application No. 10/082,418
Reply to Office Action of October 6, 2005

B. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In order to better assist the Examiner with the prosecution of the case, the current pending claims have been included in their entirety for which allowance is requested. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for regulating use of a telephone line, comprising:
detecting an authenticated identity of a caller requesting use of a telephone line to place an outgoing call and a subject of said outgoing call at at least one service located within a packet-switching network outside a trusted telephone network facilitating said outgoing call and communicative with a service provider within said trusted telephone network via a secured gateway, wherein said subject of said outgoing call specifies at least one anticipated subject matter to be discussed during said outgoing call;[[and]]
selecting, using said service, at least one relevant scheduled event for said telephone line from among a plurality of scheduled events for said telephone line, wherein said at least one relevant scheduled event specifies at least one limitation on at least one type of subject matter allowed during a current time period and a selection of user identities allowed to place outgoing calls via said telephone line during said current time period;
only directing said service provider within said trusted telephone network to allow[[ing]] use of said telephone line to place said outgoing call by said caller during said current time period if a schedule for said telephone line indicates that said caller identity matches one of said selection of user identities [[is]] currently allowed to place said outgoing call and said subject matter of said outgoing call matches said at least one type of subject matter allowed during said current time period.
2. (Original) The method for regulating use according to claim 1, wherein detecting an identity further comprises:
detecting said identity of said caller from a voice authentication.

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3. **(Currently Amended)** The method for regulating use according to claim 1, further comprising:

detecting, at said service, an estimated time duration for said outgoing call requested by said caller, wherein said expected time duration for said outgoing call is detected from a caller profile associated with said authenticated identity comprising at least one from among an averaged time per call by said caller over a selection of previous call times stored in said caller profile and a schedule for said caller indicating scheduling limitations on a duration of said outgoing call; and

responsive to said estimated time duration exceeding said current time period, alerting said caller to said time limitation and enabling said caller to select to add a new scheduled event to said plurality of scheduled events for said telephone line designating a particular time period reserved for said caller identity and said subject for said estimated time duration.

— filtering said schedule according to said estimated time for said outgoing call.

4. **(Cancelled).**

5. **(Currently Amended)** The method for regulating use according to claim 1, further comprising:

detecting an amount of redeemable points available to said caller in a caller profile associated with said caller identity for placing said outgoing call; and

comparing [[filtering]] a point cost for each minute during said current time period of said relevant scheduled event according to said amount of redeemable points available for said outgoing call and directing said service provider to only allow said outgoing call for a calculated time period available to said caller during said current time period with said [[an]] amount of redeemable points required for at least one portion of said schedule.

6. **(Previously Presented)** The method for regulating use according to claim 1, further comprising:

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controlling output of a message to said caller indicating at least one from among a reason for a blocking said telephone line, a next available time for use of said telephone line to place said outgoing call, and an amount of time available for use of said telephone line to place said outgoing call.

7. **(Currently Amended)** The method for regulating use according to claim 1, further comprising:

providing said caller with an option for reserving a call appointment in said plurality of scheduled events to place said outgoing call.

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8. **(Currently Amended)** A system for regulating use of a telephone line, comprising:
~~a telephone line for enabling communication via a communication system;~~
~~at least one service located within a packet-switching network outside a trusted telephone network facilitating an outgoing call via said telephone line and communicative with a service provider for said telephone line within said trusted telephone network via a secured gateway;~~
~~said at least one service further comprising:~~
means for detecting an authenticated identity of a caller requesting use of said telephone line to place an outgoing call and a subject of said outgoing call, wherein said subject of said outgoing call specifies at least one anticipated subject matter to be discussed during said outgoing call; [[and]]
means for selecting at least one relevant scheduled event for said telephone line from among a plurality of scheduled events for said telephone line, wherein said at least one relevant scheduled event specifies at least one limitation on at least one type of subject matter allowed during a current time period and a selection of user identities allowed to place outgoing calls via said telephone line during said current time period; and
means for only directing said service provider within said trusted telephone network to allow[[ing]] use of said telephone line by said caller to place said outgoing call during said current time period if a schedule for said telephone line indicates that said caller identity matches one of said selection of user identities [[is]] currently allowed to place said outgoing call and said subject matter of said outgoing call matches said at least one type of subject matter allowed during said current time period.
9. (Original) The system for regulating use according to claim 8, wherein said means for detecting an identity further comprises:
means for detecting said identity of said caller from a voice authentication.

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10. (Currently Amended) The system for regulating use according to claim 8, said service further comprising:

means for detecting an estimated time duration for said outgoing call requested by said caller, wherein said expected time duration for said outgoing call is detected from a caller profile associated with said authenticated identity comprising at least one from among an averaged time per call by said caller over a selection of previous call times stored in said caller profile and a schedule for said caller indicating scheduling limitations on a duration of said outgoing call; and

means, responsive to said estimated time duration exceeding said current time period, for alerting said caller to said time limitation and enabling said caller to select to add a new scheduled event to said plurality of scheduled events for said telephone line designating a particular time period reserved for said caller identity and said subject for said estimated time duration.

~~means for filtering said schedule according to said estimated time for said outgoing call.~~

11. (Canceled).

12. (Currently Amended) The system for regulating use according to claim 8, said service further comprising:

means for detecting an amount of redeemable points available to said caller in a caller profile associated with said caller identity for placing said outgoing call; and

means for comparing [[filtering]] a point cost for each minute during said current time period of said relevant scheduled event according to said amount of redeemable points available for said outgoing call and directing said service provider to only allow said outgoing call for a calculated time period available to said caller during said current time period with said [[an]] amount of redeemable points required for at least one portion of said schedule.

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13. (Currently Amended) The system for regulating use according to claim 8, said service further comprising:

means for controlling output of a message to said caller indicating at least one from among a reason for blocking said telephone line, a next available time for use of said telephone line to place said outgoing call, and an amount of time available for use of said telephone line to place said outgoing call.

14. (Currently Amended) The system for regulating use according to claim 8, said service further comprising:

means for providing said caller with an option for reserving a call appointment in said plurality of scheduled events to place said outgoing call.

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15. (Currently Amended) A program for regulating use of a telephone line, comprising:
a recording medium;
means, recorded on said recording medium, for detecting an authenticated identity of a caller requesting use of a telephone line to place an outgoing call and a subject of said outgoing call at at least one service located within a packet-switching network outside a trusted telephone network facilitating said outgoing call and communicative with a service provider within said trusted telephone network via a secured gateway, wherein said subject of said outgoing call specifies at least one anticipated subject matter to be discussed during said outgoing call; [[and]]
means, recorded on said recording medium, for selecting, using said service, at least one relevant scheduled event for said telephone line from among a plurality of scheduled events for said telephone line, wherein said at least one relevant scheduled event specifies at least one limitation on at least one type of subject matter allowed during a current time period and a selection of user identities allowed to place outgoing calls via said telephone line during said current time period; and
means, recorded on said recording medium, for only directing said service provider within said trusted telephone network to allow[[ing]] use of said telephone line by said caller to place said outgoing call during said current time period if a schedule for said telephone line indicates that said caller identity matches one of said selection of user identities [[is]] currently allowed to place said outgoing call and said subject matter of said outgoing call matches said at least one type of subject matter allowed during said current time period.

16. (Original) The program for regulating use according to claim 15, further comprising:
means, recorded on said recording medium, for detecting said identity of said caller from a voice authentication.

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17. (Currently Amended) The program for regulating use according to claim 15, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for detecting an estimated time duration for said outgoing call requested by said caller, wherein said expected time duration for said outgoing call is detected from a caller profile associated with said authenticated identity comprising at least one from among an averaged time per call by said caller over a selection of previous call times stored in said caller profile and a schedule for said caller indicating scheduling limitations on a duration of said outgoing call; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, responsive to said estimated time duration exceeding said current time period, for alerting said caller to said time limitation and enabling said caller to select to add a new scheduled event to said plurality of scheduled events for said telephone line designating a particular time period reserved for said caller identity and said subject for said estimated time duration.

means, recorded on said recording medium, for filtering said schedule according to said estimated time for said call.

18. (Canceled).

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19. **(Currently Amended)** The program for regulating use according to claim 15, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for detecting an amount of redeemable points available to said caller in a caller profile associated with said caller identity for placing said outgoing call; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for comparing [[filtering]] a point cost for each minute during said current time period of said relevant scheduled event according to said amount of redeemable points available for said outgoing call and directing said service provider to only allow said outgoing call for a calculated time period available to said caller during said current time period with said [[an]] amount of redeemable points required for at least one portion of said schedule.

20. **(Previously Presented)** The program for regulating use according to claim 15, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for controlling output of a message to said caller indicating at least one from among a reason for a blocking said telephone line, a next available time for use of said telephone line to place said outgoing call, and an amount of time available for use of said telephone line to place said outgoing call.

21. **(Currently Amended)** The program for regulating use according to claim 15, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for providing said caller with an option for reserving a call appointment in said plurality of scheduled events to place said outgoing call.

Claims 22-26 (Canceled).

27. **(Newly Added)** The method for regulating use according to claim 1, wherein detecting an authenticated identity of a caller requesting use of a telephone line to place an outgoing call and a subject of said outgoing call further comprises:

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accessing at said service a schedule accessible within said packet-switching network and associated with said authenticated identity of said caller, wherein said schedule comprises at least one scheduled entry for said caller, wherein said scheduled entry comprises a time period matching a present time and a subject entry; and

inferring said subject matter for said call from said subject entry of said scheduled entry.

28. **(Newly Added)** The method for regulating use according to claim 1, wherein detecting an authenticated identity of a caller requesting use of a telephone line to place an outgoing call and a subject of said outgoing call further comprises:

accessing at said service at least one of an identifier for a particular device used by said caller from among a plurality of devices enabled to place an outgoing call via said telephone line and a location of said particular device; and

inferring said subject matter to be discussed during said call from said at least one of said identifier for said particular device and said location of said particular device.

29. **(Newly Added)** The system for regulating use according to claim 8, wherein said means for detecting an authenticated identity of a caller requesting use of a telephone line to place an outgoing call and a subject of said outgoing call further comprises:

means for accessing at said service a schedule accessible within said packet-switching network and associated with said authenticated identity of said caller, wherein said schedule comprises at least one scheduled entry for said caller, wherein said scheduled entry comprises a time period matching a present time and a subject entry; and

means for inferring said subject matter for said call from said subject entry of said scheduled entry.

30. **(Newly Added)** The system for regulating use according to claim 8, wherein said means for detecting an authenticated identity of a caller requesting use of a telephone line to place an outgoing call and a subject of said outgoing call further comprises:

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means for accessing at said service at least one of an identifier for a particular device used by said caller from among a plurality of devices enabled to place an outgoing call via said telephone line and a location of said particular device; and

means for inferring said subject matter to be discussed during said call from said at least one of said identifier for said particular device and said location of said particular device.

31. **(Newly Added)** The program for regulating use according to claim 15, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for accessing at said service a schedule accessible within said packet-switching network and associated with said authenticated identity of said caller, wherein said schedule comprises at least one scheduled entry for said caller, wherein said scheduled entry comprises a time period matching a present time and a subject entry; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for inferring said subject matter for said call from said subject entry of said scheduled entry.

32. **(Newly Added)** The program for regulating use according to claim 15, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for accessing at said service at least one of an identifier for a particular device used by said caller from among a plurality of devices enabled to place an outgoing call via said telephone line and a location of said particular device; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for inferring said subject matter to be discussed during said call from said at least one of said identifier for said particular device and said location of said particular device.